

Remarks/Arguments:

Applicants thank the examiner for the courtesy of a telephone interview. The substance of the interview is set forth in the remarks below.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 26-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,428,565 (Wiselink). The applicants respectfully request reconsideration of these claims and respectfully submit that these claims are patentable over the cited references for at least the reasons set forth below.

During the interview, the Examiner explained that the phrase "a first transition extending between the superior end and the midsection and a second transition extending between the inferior end and the midsection" has been interpreted to mean that the transitions may extend anywhere along the superior end and midsection and the inferior end and midsection, respectively. Applicants suggested that the term "bridging between" be utilized to more accurately describe the transitions of the current invention. The examiner agreed with such language and acknowledged that the claims as amended herein read over the prior art of record.

It is respectfully submitted that independent claim 26 is in condition for allowance. Claims 27 and 29-41 each depend from claim 26 and are allowable for at least the reasons set forth above.

The applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Early reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

If the examiner believes an interview, either personal or telephonic, will advance the prosecution of this matter, it is respectfully requested that the examiner get in contact with the undersigned to arrange the same.

Respectfully submitted,



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The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 18-0350 for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.

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